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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/712,049	11/14/2003	Jean-Jacques Lacroix	14516	9043

293 7590 06/27/2005

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EXAMINER

BASTIANELLI, JOHN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3751

DATE MAILED: 06/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/712,049

Applicant(s)

LACROIX ET AL.

Examiner

John Bastianelli

Art Unit

3751

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 November 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/14/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Suggestions

1. Claim 9 lacks antecedent basis for “said seal”. The examiner assumes that the applicant is referring to “an O-ring” in claim 8.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4 and 6-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Larbuisson US 5,806,832.

Larbuisson discloses a quick coupler for the removable join of two pipes through which a fluid under pressure passes, said coupler having two elements, male 10 and female 1 and 3, adapted to fit axially in each other, the body of said female element comprising a principal part 3 in which is axially immobilized a secondary part 1 connected to one of the pipes, wherein immobilization between said principal and secondary parts occurs by at least one catch (col. 3, lines 53-59, complementary threads are catches) borne by said secondary part catching with at least one complementary catch borne by said principal part. There are several catches with the secondary part's catch is on the outer radial surface and the principal part's catch is on the inner radial surface a bore receiving the secondary part. A valve 5 is mounted in the secondary part which has a groove 4 for an O-ring for seal of the valve. An O-ring 6 is in a groove that cooperates

Art Unit: 3751

with the male element. The body of the female element has a latch 7 loaded by elastic means 9 to slide in a housing in the principal part.

4. Claims 1, 3-5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Paradis US 6,168,137.

Paradis discloses a quick coupler for the removable join of two pipes through which a fluid under pressure passes, said coupler having two elements, male 38 and female 11, adapted to fit axially in each other, the body of said female element comprising a principal part 11-1 in which is axially immobilized a secondary part 11-2 connected to one of the pipes, wherein immobilization between said principal and secondary parts occurs by at least one catch (Fig. 1A, piece connected to 11-k) borne by said secondary part catching with at least one complementary catch 11-k borne by said principal part. The secondary part's catch is on the outer radial surface and the principal part's catch is on the inner radial surface a bore receiving the secondary part. The secondary part is immobilized axially with the possibility of rotation. A valve 12 is mounted in the secondary part which has a groove 4 for an O-ring for seal of the valve. An O-ring 6 is in a groove that cooperates with the male element. The body of the female element has a latch 7 loaded by elastic means 9 to slide in a housing in the principal part.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Orr, Savage, Kjellberg, Sturgis, Hinchcliffe, Johnston, and Anderson disclose quick couplers with male and female parts with the female part having principal and secondary parts

Art Unit: 3751

with catches. Larbuisson, Truchet, Palau, and Oetiker disclose quick couplers with male and female parts with the female part having principal and secondary parts with catches and latches.

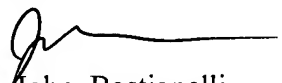
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Bastianelli whose telephone number is (571) 272-4921. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:00-6:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Justine Yu can be reached on (571) 272-4835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



JB
June 23, 2005



John Bastianelli
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3751